RULES

AND

ORDERS

TO BE OBSERVED BY THE

GOVERNOR AND MATRON

OF THE

POOR-HOUSE of BOLDRE.

TOGETHER WITH

RULES

FOR THE

Direction of the COMMITTEE

SUPERINTENDING THE SAID

POOR-HOUSE.

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RULES

AND

ORDERS, &c.

I.

THE Governor and Matron ſhall obey all Orders made by the Pariſh at the Quarterly Meetings, and likewiſe every ſuch Order as they ſhall receive from the Monthly Committee: the ſame being firſt entered in the Committee-book, and ſigned by the Members preſent.

II.

The Governor ſhall, in no caſe, place any perſon in the Houſe till he be carefully examined, waſhed and cleaned, and new

clothed (if it be neceſſary); and, in that caſe, the old Clothes are to be well cleaned. And if ſuch poor perſon be likely to be diſcharged from the Houſe, his old Clothes are to be kept till he is diſcharged, and then delivered up to him to wear in exchange for the Clothes found by the Houſe. No poor perſon to be received into the Houſe after One o'Clock in the afternoon.

III.

The Governor and Matron ſhall keep Peace and good Order in the Houſe; and permit none to quarrel, fight, or make uſe of abuſive, rude, or indecent language.

IV.

They are to keep the Children's Heads and Hands clean; and all the Clothes and Beds: to ſee that the Beds and Bedding be often expoſed to the open air, in fine weather; and the Beds ſheeted once every month. They are alſo to deliver out Sope, and ſee all the Linen waſhed and got up. They are to deliver to every one, clean

Linen, on Saturday evening; and take in their foul Linen on Sunday morning: and they are not to permit any Linen to be dried in the lodging-rooms.

V.

The Governor or Matron ſhall, every morning and evening, read Prayers; and, on every Sunday, a Chapter, or more, in the Bible, before the people; and they are to ſee that all who are able do attend, and behave with ſtrict decency and attention; otherwiſe to be puniſhed with the loſs of one or more of their meals, or by being made to work after their ſtated hours.

VI.

Three Meals a day are to be provided, at ſtated hours; viz. Breakfaſt at Eight in the morning; Dinner at One in the afternoon; Supper at Six in the winter, and Seven in the ſummer. Care is to be taken that the Victuals and Drink be ſweet and good, in their ſeveral kinds. No Beer to be drawn between meals; nor any Bread cut under a day old.

VII.

The Governor or Matron is conſtantly to ſit at the head of the table, and ſee that the people behave decently; eat their victuals orderly; carry none out of the dining-room; nor depart till after grace be ſaid; upon pain of loſing their next meal.

VIII.

The Governor ſhall punctually obſerve the Bill of Fare, that ſhall from time to time be appointed by the Monthly Committee.

IX.

The Governor ſhall ſee the Meat, Flour, and other things, weighed and meaſured, and keep an account of the quantity thereof; and he ſhall give an account every month, to the Committee, of all Proviſions and other things brought in, uſed and expended, the month preceding; and likewiſe of all Work done in the houſe; and make his Complaint againſt all perſons that may, in any reſpect, have miſbehaved.

X.

The Governor may permit ſmoking, in the Kitchen; but, by no means, any where elſe in the Houſe.

XI.

The Governor or Matron ſhall, every Sunday (weather permitting), attend the poor to Church.

XII.

The Governor ſhall take care that ſuch poor perſons as recover from any dangerous Illneſs in the Houſe, do attend at Church, to return thanks for their recovery to Almighty God.

RULES

FOR THE

DIRECTION

OF THE

COMMITTEE.

I.

THAT all ſingle perſons, and married ones without families, who are unable to maintain themſelves, ſhall be taken into the Houſe, and not ſupported out of it by any ſettled Allowance or Penſion, except in extraordinary caſes.

II.

That perſons, whoſe Families are too large to be maintained by their own labour, may offer one or more of their Children to

be received into the Houſe, at the diſcretion of the Monthly Committee.

III.

That poor perſons, received into the Houſe for temporary relief only, ſhall not be deprived of their Houſehold Goods, Furniture, or other property; but ſhall be permitted to enjoy the ſame.

IV.

That, for the encouragement of thoſe poor perſons who ſhall diſcharge the buſineſs they are appointed to with care and diligence, Rewards ſhall be given them from time to time, at the diſcretion of the Monthly Committee; but ſo as that ſuch rewards ſhall not exceed One Penny in the Shilling upon the earnings of ſuch poor perſons.

V.

That an Inventory ſhall be taken of all the Stock and Furniture in the Houſe; and

the Committee, on the firſt Tueſday in Eaſter Week, yearly, ſhall cauſe a new Inventory to be made, and compare it with that of the preceding year.

VI.

That the Sick, on their recovery, ſhall attend the Monthly Committee, to be examined by them, concerning the care and attendance which they have had during their illneſs; and that it ſhall be recommended to them to return thanks to the Governor for the kind treatment they may have experienced.

VII.

That the Overſeers of the Poor ſhall not relieve any poor perſon without an order from the Monthly Committee, except in caſes of neceſſity; and where any Overſeer ſhall judge it neceſſary to relieve a poor perſon, he ſhall not fail to give an account of the ſame, with his reaſons for granting ſuch relief, to the next Monthly Committee.

VIII.

That none of the above Rules and Regulations ſhall be altered, nor any new ones made, except at a General Quarterly Meeting, of which due notice ſhall be given.

IX.

That all Diſburſements ſhall be examined by the Monthly Committee; alſo the amount of the ſums collected: and the Accounts ſhall be balanced every month.

X.

That no act of the Monthly Committee ſhall be valid, unleſs three members of ſuch Committee, at the leaſt, are preſent.